

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Claims**

1. (Currently amended) A microsilica with pozzolanic activity that contains at least 85% in weight of silica with respect to the total weight of microsilica, wherein the silica contains 55 to 90% in weight of cristobalite and tridomite with respect to the total weight of silica, wherein said microsilica has a particle size distribution equal to or less than 40  $\mu\text{m}$  at 98%, and wherein said microsilica has a density equal to or less than 2.4 g/cm}^3 ~~does not contain significant amounts of alkaline metal oxide.~~
2. (Previously presented) The microsilica of claim 1, wherein the amount of cristobalite and tridomite is 70 to 90% in weight with respect to the total weight of silica.
3. (Previously presented) The microsilica of claim 1, wherein the cristobalite and tridomite have a crystal size of 5 to 12 nm.
4. (Previously presented) The microsilica of claim 3, wherein the cristobalite and tridomite have a crystal size of 6 to 11 nm.
5. (Previously presented) The microsilica of claim 1, wherein said microsilica has a pozzolanic index from 100 to 125%.
6. (Previously presented) The microsilica of claim 5, wherein said microsilica has a pozzolanic index from 115% to 125%.

7. (Previously presented) The microsilica of claim 1, wherein said microsilica has a superficial area of 25,000 m<sup>2</sup>/Kg.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Currently Amended) The microsilica of the claim 1, A microsilica with pozzolanic activity that comprises silica containing 55 to 90% in weight of cristobalite and tridomite with respect to the total weight of silica, wherein said microsilica has a particle size distribution equal to or less than 40 µm at 98%,  
wherein said microsilica includes:

Components	Percentage in weight with respect to the total weight of microsilica (%)
SiO <sub>2</sub>	89.08
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.87
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.1
CaO	3.96
MgO	0.88
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.06
SO <sub>3</sub>	0.35
PPI	2.22

11. (Previously presented) The microsilica of the claim 10, wherein said microsilica has a density of  $2.33 \text{ g/cm}^3$ , a mesh fineness of 325 in a 96.7 % and a Blaine value of  $6,536 \text{ g/cm}^2$ .

12. (Previously presented) A method for the production of the microsilica of claim 1, wherein the method includes the steps of:

- a) Obtaining siliceous material from a natural deposit,
- b) Selecting any parts of the deposit that contain  $\text{SiO}_2$  in an amount equal to or greater than 85% in weight with respect to the total weight of the material,
- c) Selecting any parts with a density lower than  $2.4 \text{ g/cm}^3$  from the parts selected in step b),
- d) Crushing the parts selected in step c) until a particle size lower than  $1/2"$  is obtained,
- e) Calcination of the material resulting from step d) at 590 to  $620^\circ\text{C}$ , and
- f) Milling the calcined material until a mesh particle size of 325 at 96% minimum is obtained.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the natural deposit is an ignimbrite deposit.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the microsilica has a pozzolanic index from 100 to 125%.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the microsilica has a pozzolanic index from 115% to 125%.

16. (Previously presented) A method for the production of the microsilica of claim 1, wherein the method includes the steps of:

- a) Obtaining siliceous material from a natural deposit,
- b) Selecting any parts of the deposit that contain  $\text{SiO}_2$  in an equal or greater amounts than 85% in weight with respect to the total weight of the material,
- c) Selecting any parts with a density lower than  $2.4 \text{ g/cm}^3$  from the parts selected in step b),
- d) Crushing the parts selected in step c) until a particle size lower than  $1/2"$  is obtained, and
- e) Milling the material obtained in step d) until a mesh particle size of 325 at 96% minimum is obtained.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the natural deposit is an ignimbrite deposit.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the microsilica has a pozzolanic index from 100 to 120%.

19. (Currently amended) A microsilica with pozzolanic activity that contains at least 85% in weight of silica with respect to the total weight of microsilica, wherein the silica contains 55 to 90% in weight of cristobalite and tridomite with respect to the total weight of silica and said microsilica has a particle size distribution equal to or less than  $40 \mu\text{m}$  at 98%, wherein the cristobalite and tridomite have a crystal size of 5 to 12 nm and wherein said microsilica is produced by

- a) obtaining siliceous material from a natural deposit,

- b) selecting any parts of the deposit that contain SiO<sub>2</sub> in an amount equal to or greater than 85% in weight with respect to the total weight of the material,
- c) selecting any parts with a density lower than 2.4 g/cm<sup>3</sup> from the parts selected in step b),
- d) crushing the parts selected in step c) until a particle size lower than 1/2" is obtained,
- e) milling the material until a mesh particle size of 325 at 96% minimum is obtained.

20. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ microsilica according to claim 19, further comprising subjecting the material resulting from step d) to calcination at 590 to 620°C prior to milling.